

**The Law Offices of Mikio Ishimaru**

Intellectual Property Law  
Patents - Licensing - Strategy - & Related Matters  
333 W. El Camino Real, Suite #330  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
Telephone: (408) 738-0592  
Fax: (408) 738-0881

**Fax**

To:	Mail Stop Issue Fee	From:	Mikio Ishimaru
Fax:	(571) 273-2885	Pages:	4, including this page
Phone:		Date:	March 16, 2006
Re:	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/692,028		

☒ Issue Fee☐ Information☐ Other**IMPORTANT**

The information contained in this facsimile is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately notify us by telephone, and return the original message to us at the address above via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

For confirmation or assistance, call (408) 738-0592

**Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 16, 2006

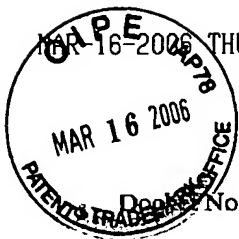
  
Signature

Winona C. Orange

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

With reference to serial number 10/692,028 (attorney docket no. 1016-066), the following are being submitted:

- Fax Cover Sheet with Certificate of Transmission (1 page)
- Fee(s) Transmittal with duplicate copy (2 pages)
- Comments on Examiner's Reasons for Allowance (1 page)



Do not write No.: 1016-066

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Bei Chao Zhang, et al. : Confirmation No.: 6419  
Serial No.: 10/692,028 : Art Unit: 2891  
Filed: 10/23/2003 : Examiner: David A. Zarneke  
For: VIA ELECTROMIGRATION IMPROVEMENT BY CHANGING THE VIA  
BOTTOM GEOMETRIC PROFILE

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

DOES NOT AFFECT PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT  
Under 37 CFR 1.704(c)(10)

Sir:

The following Comments are submitted in response to the Notice of Allowability dated December 20, 2005. Applicants respectfully request no reduction of the Patent Term Adjustment in accordance with Clarification of 37 CFR 1.704(c)(10) – "Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance has been Mailed", 1247 Official Gazette Patent Office 111 (June 26, 2001), which states:

"The submission of the following paper after a Notice of Allowance is not considered a failure to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude processing or examination for an application: ... (6) a response to the examiner's reasons for allowance or a request to correct an error or omission in the 'Notice of Allowance' or 'Notice of Allowability'... [underlining and deletion for clarity]

**COMMENTS**

Concerning the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 13-17 are allowable because they claim a combination, which includes, *inter alia*, concepts related to those addressed by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

William D. Zahrt II  
Registration No. 26,070

The Law Offices of Mikio Ishimaru  
333 W. El Camino Real, Suite #330  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
Telephone: (408) 738-0592  
Fax: (408) 738-0881  
Date: March 16, 2006